

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to sponsor 12 special events during July 2015

(DOVER, Del.—June 15, 2015)—The Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be sponsoring 12 special events during the month of July 2015 at the museums of the state of Delaware. A full schedule is included below. With the exception of DeBraak tours, all programs are free and open to the public. For additional information, call 302-744-5055.



Historical interpreters will recite the Declaration of Independence from the steps of Dover's Old State House on July 4, 2015.

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs special events, July 2015

Wednesdays, July 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2015

"Watercolor Wednesdays." Explore the hues of the John Dickinson mansion, learn about 18th-century paint colors and paint a scene. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, July 4, 2015

Independence Day program. Screenings at 11 a.m., 1 and 5 p.m. of "Thunder and Rain," a film about Caesar Rodney's historic ride for independence. At 2 and 4 p.m., the bell of The Old State House will ring in celebration of the nation's birthday, followed immediately by site interpreters, dressed in period clothing, who will recite the Declaration of Independence aloud from the spot where the document was first read to the citizens of Dover in 1776. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Museum open 9 a.m.–6 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, July 4, 2015

"Stars and Stripes." Guided tours explore some of Victor Records' many recordings of patriotic music played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.



Display of Victor Talking Machines at the Johnson Victrola Museum. Patriotic music will be featured at the museum on July 4, 2015.

Mondays, July 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2015

[Lecture/tours of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak](#). Explore the history of the DeBraak which was capsized and lost off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Program includes a trip to the hull facility in nearby Cape Henlopen State Park for a tour of the surviving section of the ship's hull. **[Zwaanendael Museum](#)**, 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Programs at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Limited seating. Admission \$10 by reservation only through the Shop Delaware website (go to **<http://shop.delaware.gov>** and click the "Tours" link). For additional information, call 302-645-1148.

Saturday, July 11, 2015

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts. **[John Dickinson Plantation](#)**, 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Exhibits and displays, July 2015

In addition to special programming, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is sponsoring the following exhibits and displays at sites across the state:

Ongoing

[“Delaware and the War of 1812.”](#) Exhibit examines the service and sacrifice of Delawareans of 1812 to 1815, and the important role that the state played in a conflict that helped shaped the development of the United States. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Delaware Mourns Lincoln: A Demonstration of Love and Sorrow.”](#) Utilizing graphics, clothing and memorabilia, the display explores how Delawareans expressed their deep sorrow upon the death of President Abraham Lincoln on April 15, 1865. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Ongoing

[“Discovering Delaware’s Maritime Past.”](#) Display explores the DeBraak, a shipwrecked 18th-century British warship including a photo of the hull recovery, reproductions of items aboard ship, and a model of the vessel. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. from April 1–Oct. 31. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. from Nov. 1–March 31. 302-645-1148.
Display opened in June, 2015.



Model of His Majesty's Sloop of War DeBraak. Part of a new display at the Zwaanendael Museum.

Ongoing

[“Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey From Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad.”](#) Exhibit chronicles the compelling story of Emeline Hawkins and her family and their 1845 odyssey on the Underground Railroad from slavery in Maryland, through Delaware to freedom in Pennsylvania. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

[“Middletown Goes To War.”](#) Designed by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the exhibit spotlights the contributions of Middletown's veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present. [Middletown Historical Society](#), 216 N. Broad St., Middletown. Fri., 9 a.m.–3 p.m. First Sat. of each month, 9 a.m.–Noon. Third Wed. of each month, Noon–4 p.m. Other times by appointment. 302-378-7466.

Ongoing

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#). Display of works by the noted Wilmington artist featuring historical and political figures

including a Minute Man, and presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W. Bush. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

[“A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World.”](#)

Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty’s Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798 to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. April 1–Oct. 31: Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. Nov. 1–March 31: Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-645-1148.

Ongoing

[“Simple Machines.”](#) Exhibit demonstrating the six “simple machines”—incline ramp, screw, wedge, pulley, lever and wheel—that constitute the elementary building blocks of which many more-complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Ongoing

[“World War II Through the Lens of William D. Willis.”](#)

Designed by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the display features photographs taken in Western Europe from 1943-45. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [Legislative Hall](#), 411 Legislative Ave., Dover. Limited visitation hours; call 302-739-9194 before planning a visit.



Photograph of two P-51 Mustang fighter aircraft. The image is part of the display "World War II Through the Lens of William D. Willis" at Dover's Legislative Hall.

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Contact:

Jim Yurasek

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

Phone: 302-736-7413

E-mail: Jim.Yurasek@delaware.gov

Web: <http://history.delaware.gov>